

# Deer Park Police Department



## 2012 Annual Report

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE GREGORY L. GRIGG

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The 2012 Annual Report reflects the good work we accomplished during the year as well provides proof we have some budding actors/actresses at the police department. Some of the accomplishments I am most proud of include Community service, employee development opportunities, the establishment of the Neighborhood and Business Watch Newsletters, and the support of our wonderful volunteers.

Two Citizen Police Academies were held in 2012 with a total of 34 graduates, the Business Watch Program grew from 126 to 209 businesses, and the Volunteer Handicap Parking Program continued with a total of 28 citations written. The Department stayed in close contact with the community this year with quarterly Beat meetings, National Night Out, attendance at community events, and through response to issues raised by our citizens.

In 2012 police department employees received twenty-two (22) “thank you” letters from citizens. One in particular from an anonymous teenager has been included in this year’s report as it exemplifies the difference our officers often make in the lives of those they serve.

Telecommunications Supervisor Cyndi Sauter and Crime Analyst Lucie Corley retired in 2012 after 21 and 20 years of service respectively. Three police officers, four Telecommunicators, one Records Clerk, and two Public Safety Attendants were hired. PSA Property Custodian Mike Ramos transferred to the Deer Park IT Department.

Employee development continued in 2012. Phase 2 of the Mentoring Program was continued with three more police officers and one additional telecommunicator spending a year in the program learning the role of a first line supervisor.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE GREGORY L. GRIGG

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We participated in the LEPC Tabletop drill hosted by DPISD. This was a large multi-city / multi-agency event that will provide a good opportunity for us to work with many surrounding agencies over the next two years.

Traffic issues remained a priority in 2012. STEP grant funds were increased from \$23,814 in 2011 to \$31,000 in 2012. The department used regularly appropriated overtime funds to supplement enforcement for seatbelt, DWI, and speeding. Traffic efforts also included 72 Child Passenger Check Stations, and coordinating a warrant round-up with Municipal Court.

The citizens of Deer Park graciously voted for a Crime Control Prevention District in 2011. These monies made possible the purchase of much needed equipment, and paid for additional employees. Some of the equipment included four outfitted patrol vehicles, three CID vehicles, new radios for dispatch, and provided for us to outfit another high water vehicle. We also continue to set aside money for a gun range we plan to build in 2014.

We could not have achieved our success and achievements without the support of Mayor Riddle, the City Council, and City Manager James J. Stokes. Thank you for your support. I also acknowledge our volunteers who sacrificially gave 2,211 hours of their time to support us across almost all areas of the department. This is almost equivalent to having 1.5 additional full time employees.

It is a great privilege for me to have the opportunity to work with the dedicated professionals of this department. We get to serve a city that is a community, enjoy the support of our outstanding citizens, and all while doing our best to keep everyone safe. I dedicate this year's Annual Report to the volunteers of the Deer Park Police Department.

# ***Deer Park Police Department***

## ***Mission***

*The Mission of the Deer Park Police Department is to provide the highest quality of police service in order to improve the quality of life for the Citizens of Deer Park.*

*The members of the Deer Park Police Department hold these values in the highest regard.*

## ***Integrity***

*We are committed to holding ourselves accountable to the highest standards of professionalism and ethics*

## ***Partnership***

*We are committed to developing relationships with the community and together identifying and resolving issues affecting public safety.*

## ***Diligence***

*We are committed to hard work and purposeful activity.*

## ***Dedication***

*We dedicate ourselves to Professional Law Enforcement.*

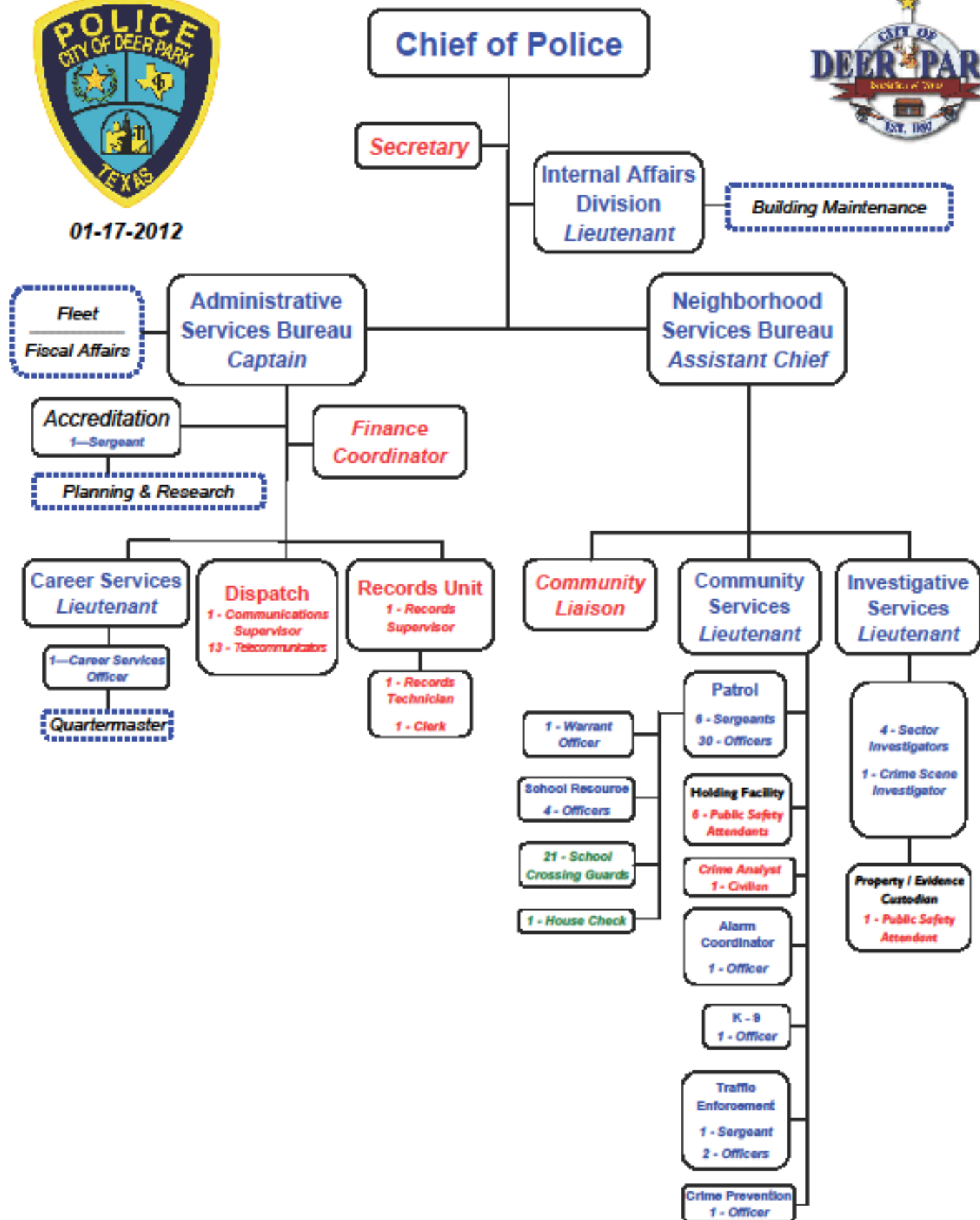
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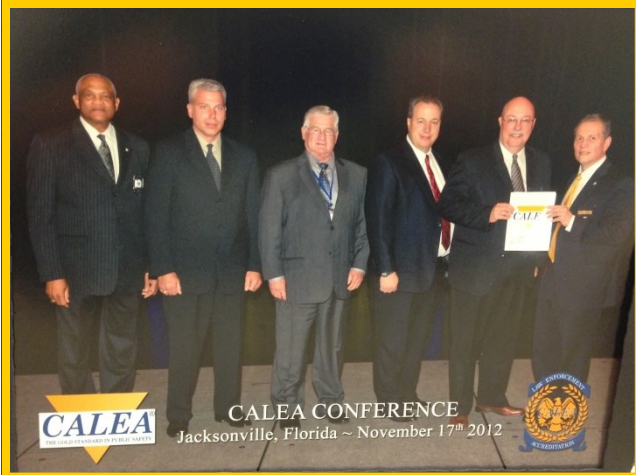


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# CALEA ACCREDITATION

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The Deer Park Police Department has been an accredited agency through the Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 2006. Being CALEA accredited can limit an agency's and its employees liability and risk exposure because it demonstrates that internationally recognized standards for law enforcement have been met, as verified by a team of independent, outside CALEA-trained assessors. Every three years, CALEA re-assesses the agency to ensure compliance with all applicable standards. In August 2012 the Deer Park

Police Department was successfully re-accredited. While in and of itself it is a remarkable accomplishment, this year we were honored to receive an Award of Accreditation with Excellence. This is an honor bestowed upon agencies that have maintained exemplary compliance for three accreditation cycles, and exhibited an outstanding commitment to accreditation within the department. The accreditation process was overseen by Accreditation Manager, Sergeant D. J. Rouen, who tracks and coordinates acquisition of proofs of compliance to ensure that the department was ready for the onsite assessment.

We are fortunate enough to have two CALEA Assessors employed by the Department, Assistant Chief Ken Findley and Captain Sharon Massey. In order to ensure the continued quality of the process and proofs, all proofs were reviewed by our own Assessors. This annual self review of our progress and quality will help to not only ensure our compliance, but allow for any corrections of any problems in a timely manner. This year, in addition to our self assessment, a handpicked group of assessors from other CALEA agencies reviewed all of the files to further ensure our compliance prior to our August on-site assessment.

Congratulations to the Deer Park Police Department for its 2012 CALEA Re-Accreditation as an agency recognized as an Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation with Excellence!!





# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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Captain Sharon Massey

The Administrative Services Bureau, commanded by Captain Sharon W. Massey, is responsible for the administrative and support functions in the police department. The components that make up the Bureau include the Records Division, which provides for records maintenance, storage, and retrieval, as well as compliance with the Texas Public Information Act; the Career Services Division, which handles the recruiting and training of all departmental employees, and the Communications Division. CALEA Accreditation and fleet operations also fall within the responsibility of the Administrative Bureau, as do fiscal affairs, budget, payroll, and most grant development, application and management.

The biggest accomplishment of the Administrative Services Bureau during 2012 was the successful culmination of a six-year departmental effort towards obtaining the prestigious CALEA Accreditation with Excellence Award. Many thanks go out to Accreditation Sergeant Danny J. Rouen, who was responsible for all aspects of overseeing the process.

The biggest task of the Administrative Services Bureau during 2012 was the management and execution of the first year of the five-year Crime Control and Prevention District budget which provided the police department with \$786,980 in revenue for FY 2011/2012. A portion of these funds were used for salaries for the Crime Prevention officer and dispatchers, the Public Safety radio system, four new patrol cars and equipment to outfit them, three new criminal investigations vehicles, and the equipment to outfit a replacement high-water vehicle. The Crime Control and Prevention District revenue is beneficial in that it eases the burden on the General Fund budget and allows for the acquisition of needed equipment for the police department that may not otherwise be funded.



The Deer Park Police Department also received \$1,785 in grant funds from the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program for ballistic vests as well as \$9,747 that was obtained through the asset seizure and forfeiture process during FY 2011/2012.



# CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION DISTRICT

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The Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) was created in May 2011 to provide the opportunity to initiate a sales and use tax of  $\frac{1}{4}\%$  to finance the district, upon voter approval. The purpose of the District is to enhance the capability of law enforcement and to further crime prevention programs through the acquisition of personnel, new equipment and technology for the police department.

The CCPD is governed by a Board that is selected by the Deer Park City Council. The Board members in 2012 were, from left to right, Tommy Ginn, Ray Landers, Bob Hotten, Earl Sturrock, Roy Roberts, Sherry Garrison and Charles Flint. The Board is responsible for monitoring the fiscal accountability as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of the CCPD plan and budget.

The projected amount of sales tax revenue to be collected in the first ten months of 2011/2012 was \$833,333. The actual amount of taxes collected fell short by \$46,352, bringing the total revenues for the CCPD to \$786,981. These funds still allowed for the purchase of four new Chevy Caprice patrol cars, three new Criminal Investigations vehicles, four replacement COBAN in-car mobile video systems, and a Cellebrite UFED forensic system that is used to extract vital information from over 2500 + models of mobile devices such as cell phones, PDA's and I Pad's. The revenue also provided for the purchase of a laptop for Assistant Chief Findley, the equipment to outfit a patrol vehicle and to lift an additional high-water vehicle. The CCPD is funding the five year purchase contract for the new radio system that was installed in June, 2012 and a semi-enclosed firing range that will begin construction in 2014.

The CCPD pays the salary for our Crime Prevention Officer, Tina Taylor and three dispatchers who are also funded through the District.



Lieutenant J. Yettevich

The Deer Park Police Department has some of the most stringent hiring qualifications of any police department in the State of Texas. The Career Services Division is tasked with recruiting individuals who meet these high standards. In order to be hired and prior to any initial testing; a successful Police Officer candidate must start the process with a Bachelor's degree and an impeccable reputation.

The Career Services Division is staffed by Lieutenant John Yettevich and Officer Sam Jammass. Lieutenant Yettevich has been a licensed Peace Officer since 1990 and has served with the Deer Park Police Department for over twenty years. Some of his previous responsibilities include: Patrol, Field Training Supervisor, Instructor, Holding Facility, Detectives and Crime Scene Investigator. The Career Services Lieutenant is

responsible for budgeting, tracking, reporting and overseeing all of the internal training and coordination of all external training. The employees of the Police Department complete an accumulated average of over 10,000 man hours of training each year. The Career Services Lieutenant presides over the Training Advisory Board, chairs the Awards Committee and the Family Assistance Committee. He is also a representative on the City's Safety Committee.

Officer Jammass has been with the Deer Park Police Department for over ten years. Jammass has served in both patrol and detective divisions.

The recruiting officer position is a very demanding position; the recruiter is responsible for actively recruiting qualified candidates, processing the numerous applications received, testing and background investigations. He is also responsible for procurement and distribution of uniforms and equipment for the entire department.

## **Promotions:**

Lieutenant Earl Morrison



## **Retirements:**

Cyndi Sauter

## **Recruiting**

One Police Officer was hired under the Lateral entry program. Two additional Officers were hired and attended Police Academies. During 2012 the Career Services Division received 2049 applications for positions throughout the Department. Of those applicants, the following positions were filled:

- 1 House check person
- 3 Police Officers
- 4 Telecommunicators
- 2 Public Safety Attendants
- 6 School Crossing Guards
- 1 Records Clerk

# INTERNAL AFFAIRS

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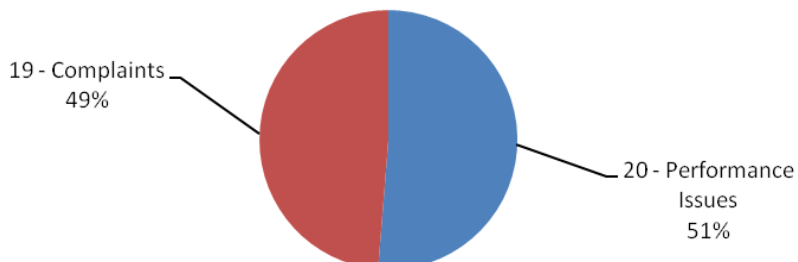
Lieutenant Wade Keeney

The Internal Affairs Division is responsible for maintaining records of and / or investigating internal or external accusations against agency personnel that result in an internal affairs investigation compiling and making available to the public and agency personnel annual statistical summaries based upon these records.

**Complaints** – Any allegation(s) made by any person outside the Department, who has a criticism of the Department, the services provided by the Department, or believes any Departmental employee has been involved in improper conduct that is not a Performance Issue.

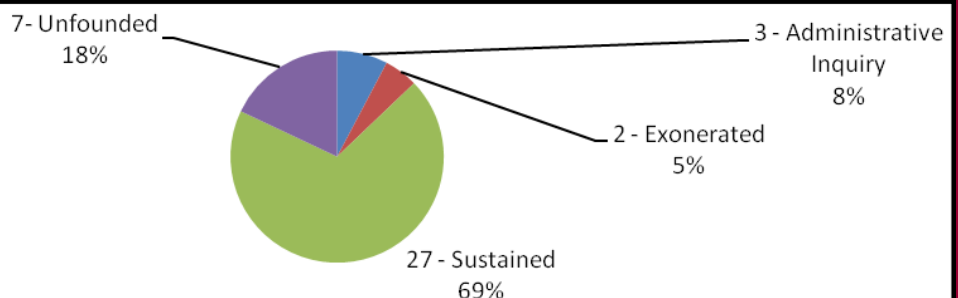
**Performance Issues** – Behavior discovered or witnessed by supervisors, or that is reported to them by other members of the department, that is directly related to performance. This does not include substantive misconduct or criminal activity. A report from another employee will be treated as a performance issue when it is not behavior against the complaining witness, substantive misconduct, or criminal activity. Examples of performance issues include, but are not limited to: abuse of sick time; internal observations of discourtesy or rudeness that do not include statements regarding race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or disability; failure to properly complete required duties; improper or inaccurate investigation of a crime or crash report; inferior work quality; minor violations of city or department policies / procedures; missed assignments; operation or care of City property; poor employee attitude; tardiness; and, traffic offenses not involving an accident.

Categories of allegations made against agency personnel in 2012:



The Chief of Police, at the conclusion of a complaint's administrative adjudication, will notify in writing the employee and the complainant involved of the findings. The Chief of Police will classify completed inquiry investigations and internal affairs Investigations as follows:

Number and type of dispositions for internal affair investigations during 2012



Lt. Wade Keeney is the current commander of the Internal Affairs Division. Before becoming a law enforcement officer, he served from 1978-1981 in the United States Marine Corps where he received an Honorable Discharge. He has been a Texas Peace Officer since October 29, 1982 and has held assignments in: Patrol; Jail; Emergency Communications; Traffic & Accident; Detectives; Personnel; Training; and, Recruiting. He has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of Houston, Downtown and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University.

He is also a graduate of the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute and the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy. Individuals who wish to register a complaint may contact him at [wkeeney@deerparktx.org](mailto:wkeeney@deerparktx.org) or 281-930-2103.

# RECORDS



**Kellie Bass**

The Records Unit for the Deer Park Police Department primarily processes requests for public information and maintains department records, but also performs other clerical duties. The unit relies on the provisions set forth under the Texas Public Information Act and the Texas State Library Retention Schedule to accomplish assigned duties.

The unit is staffed by three full time employees who processed more than 2800 requests for information in 2012; an increase of approximately 7% over the previous year. Each request is reviewed on a case by case basis against government, family and other codes to confirm that the information is releasable. Each year the department withholds dozens of requests on the grounds that the information is confidential under law, but produces the majority of requests in a timely manner and within the 10 business day afforded under the act.

Requests pertaining to confidential information may be cancelled by the requestor; however, many requestors choose to pursue an opinion from the Office of the Attorney General in regards to withheld information. During the opinion process, the department sends a legal brief to the Office of the Attorney General on behalf of the requestor citing why the requested information is believed to be confidential. The Attorney General's Office generally rules within 45 days, but the ruling does not guarantee the release of the requested information.

Ernestine Dehaven joined the unit in August of 2012 as a Records Clerk and worked primarily on requests originating from the District Attorney's office in addition to providing excellent customer service and performing other clerical duties. Sharon Moblo continued on as Records Technician with the unit, continued to expand her knowledge of public information act exceptions and records retention management and assisted with many other duties during periods of personnel shortages and increased work volume. Records Supervisor Kellie Bass promoted to the position of Communication Supervisor in September of 2012 and continued to assist with the Records Unit function pending the filling of the Records Supervisor position.

Records that can be requested through the unit also continue to be made available online for convenience at <http://p2c.deerparktx.gov>. Statistically compiled data in map format is also available online at [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com). To request records not available online, please submit a written request in person, via fax at (281) 479-4372, via email at [policerecords@deerparktx.org](mailto:policerecords@deerparktx.org) or via mail. The Records Unit may be reached at (281) 478-2000 for assistance, but will not be able to release information about department records over the phone.

For more information on the Texas Public Information Act, please visit the Attorney General's website at <https://www.oag.state.tx.us/>. For more information on the retention of department records, please visit the Texas State Library's website at <https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/>. Additional information about the Deer Park Police Department, Records Unit and other services can be located at [www.deerparktx.gov/police](http://www.deerparktx.gov/police).



**Sharon Moblo**



**Ernestine DeHaven**

2012





Chief Grigg and Kellie Bass

In 2012, Communications Supervisor Cyndi Sauter retired. Telecommunications Officer Hope Buck acted as interim supervisor of the unit until a replacement was selected. Records Supervisor Kellie Bass assumed Communications supervision in September of 2012.

All Telecommunications Officers (dispatchers or TCOs) for the Deer Park Police Department receive extensive training and are certified by the same entity that commissions law enforcement officers. The combination of state certified and non-mandated, specialized training Deer Park Telecommunications Officers receive equips them to handle a myriad of emergency calls and provide pre-arrival instructions to include emergency medical assistance.



Cyndi Sauter



Clayton Hall

While all TCOs use their training daily and consider their remarkable work just part of the job, some of the TCOs were recognized for their outstanding efforts in assisting with the resolution of exceptional incidents. TCO Clayton Hall received Employee of the Month for November for his assistance in tracking an endangered subject. Using many tools, including the use of GPS tracking technology incorporated into the 911 system, Clayton assisted patrol with locating a subject who was in danger and possibly help save a life. In December of 2012, Jarrett Grundman received employee of the month for taking two EMS calls which required him to provide CPR instructions to the caller. Jarrett Grundman

was also recognized by the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department as a Silent Hero.

While Communications is not a thankless job, it can remain hidden behind the scenes. Appreciation campaigns like Telecommunications Appreciation Week, community programs like the Citizen's Police Academy, and feedback from coworkers and the public, make TCOs aware of the value of their skill sets and efforts. They are the first, first responder in a unique way; however, TCO's do not physically make the scene and the scope and complexity of their job is often shielded from public view.



Jarrett Grundman

Deer Park Police Department Dispatchers must know protocols and procedures for dispatching a myriad of law enforcement type calls. These practices differ from the ones they must learn for Fire and EMS dispatching. They routinely answer non-emergency lines, multiple 911 emergency lines and several radio channels simultaneously, providing assistance to first responders and the public while documenting incidents, prioritizing multiple calls, managing many resources and keeping safety paramount. All total, in 2012, Deer Park Dispatchers monitored 17 total recorded phone lines and radio channels with over 317,000 transmissions using 9 or less personnel. Over 21,000 of those calls were from 911 lines. Many of those 911 calls originated in error from cell phones, but TCOs must treat each call as though it may be an emergency and avoid complacency.

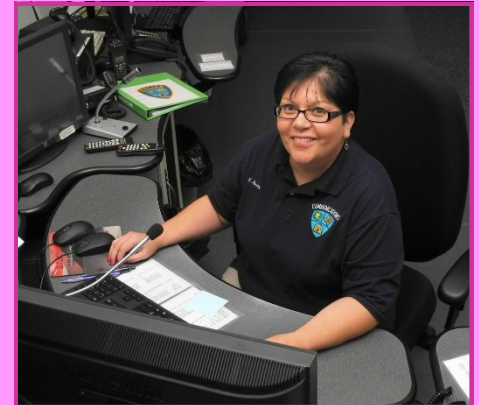
**We do not want bad things to happen to good people, but if they do happen we want to be there to take the call.**

Deer Park Police Department dispatchers have well over 70 years of combined on the job experience and are capable of handling even the most serious of situations. While it can be difficult to get this modest, tight lipped and experienced group to discuss why they choose this career or the difference they have made, we were able to gather the following comments and stories. For every one tale, there are many more that go untold as they do amazing things every day.



Ethel Ridgeway

*"As a telecommunicator, I take many 911 calls dealing with life-threatening situations. I can recall a 911 call in which a husband found his wife not breathing. Through instructions I provided him he was able to start performing CPR on her and when the paramedics got on scene they took over CPR and were able to get a pulse back on the female. Knowing that I played a critical part in this situation that resulted in someone's life being saved is a humbling feeling."*  
~Deer Park Police Dispatcher



Hope Buck



Brandi Brumley, Kathy Cobb, Hope Buck  
Holley Rendon & Emily Bounds



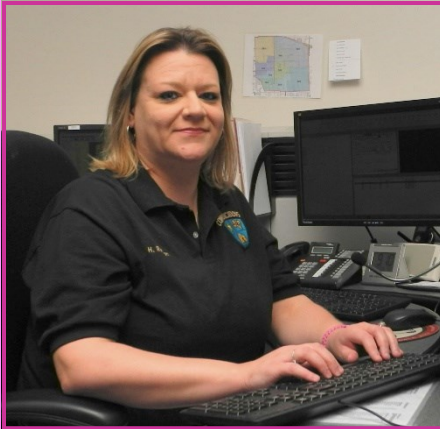
Vacation Safety School



Kathy Cobb

“When my kids ask me why I have to go to work, I can tell them that when people need help Daddy sends them the help they need.”

~ Deer Park Police Dispatcher



Holley Rendon

Working as a team during high stress calls always makes a difference in not only saving a life, but helping the officers respond to calls. I am lucky enough to work with a great group of men/women that all work well together in any situation.

~ Deer Park Police Dispatcher

“Having children myself, the calls where I can help someone with a sick or injured child are the ones that stand out the most in my mind. Whether I have helped a parent dislodge an object from a child’s throat or helped a parent feel at ease when their child was having a febrile seizure, I remember each and every one of those calls.”

~ Deer Park Police Dispatcher

Nearly 10 years ago I helped a caller perform pre-arrival instructions to clear a child’s airway. The sound of her crying over the phone was pure relief. The family sent me a picture of the toddler and a letter of thanks. I keep it to this day in a wallet behind my badge. I think of her today as a pre-teen, her parent’s sincere gratitude and know that call helped define why I chose this career path. For over a decade I have worked with an incredible and dedicated group of public safety professionals. I cherish the bonds we have created, the experiences we have had, and the differences we have made.”

~ Deer Park Police Dispatcher



Brandi Brumley



Zulma Veliz

The most memorable call for me was one I took during Hurricane Ike. It came in right as the eye wall was passing over. I received a 911 call from a frantic citizen telling me that the apartment building he was in collapsed; everyone was trapped. I remember the emotions of fear and the panic in his voice. I’ll never forget the words “I don’t know if they are alive.” It was terrifying to me as I tried to keep my caller calm so we could go apartment by apartment to check occupancy levels for rescue. I will never forget this call, his voice, or having my officer enter such a dangerous and life threatening situation. This one call reminds me of the heroes I have the privilege of working with every day. I’ll never forget it! ~ Deer Park Police Dispatcher

# NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES BUREAU



As demonstrated throughout this report, the police department strived to enhance existing community relationships and build new ones. The focus of the department is a community-oriented, problem-solving policing philosophy, based on community and police partnerships. Many calls for service are more effectively handled by focusing on the problem and planning for a long-term solution. Calls may involve animal problems, neighbor disputes over noise or boundaries, suspected criminal activity, or other such issues. Beat officers are empowered to be the catalyst for problem resolution. There are many benefits from this type of approach.

- Officers are able to spend more time working with citizens to solve crime and disorder problems;
- With better police-citizen communication, officers can more effectively use and share crime information with the public;
- Officers who know both a community's problems and its residents can link people with other public and private entities that can help solve community concerns;
- No single department can solve complex social problems alone—a combined community-police effort restores the safety of our neighborhoods and business districts.

As mentioned in the previous year's annual report, the demographics of the city are changing, presenting challenges in effective communications. To overcome this, the department is constantly in search of bilingual or multilingual employees, both sworn and non-sworn. The department continued in 2012 to incorporate all segments of the community into department operations by expanding the volunteer opportunities. In 2012, volunteers contributed 2,210.55 hours through warrant calling, handicapped parking enforcement, assistance with the fleet and property and evidence, assistance with parades and other functions, and many other types of meaningful work.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

The overall goal of the Community Services Division is to provide the highest quality of police service to the citizens of Deer Park. This is accomplished through our committed relationship with the residents, businesses and other departments within the city.

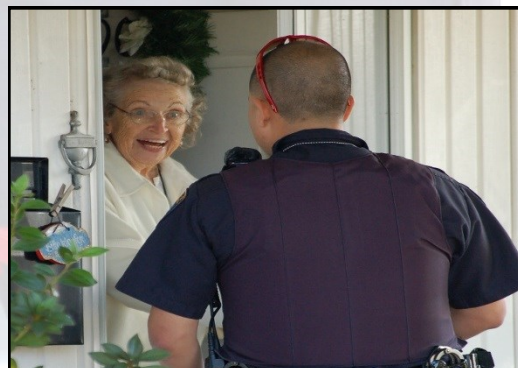
The Community Services Division is the largest division within the Police Department and is responsible for the initial “boots on the ground” response to all calls from the community. In addition to responding to calls for service, the division is responsible for handling neighborhood problems, traffic enforcement, analyzing crime trends, managing all of the city’s alarm permits and community relations. This division is also responsible for providing the city with a Warrant Officer, a K-9 Officer, an Alarm Coordinator, a Crime Prevention Officer and the Deer Park Independent School District with four School Resource Officers and 21 crossing guards.

The Community Services Division also facilitates several community programs which include the Citizen Radar Program, Vacation House Checks, Radar Trailer placement and oversight, Citizen Ride-Alongs, Child Passenger Car Seat installation, Neighborhood Beat Meetings, Business watch meetings, Police Department facility tours, and many others. Examples of some of the programs that were created or expanded by the Community Services Division during 2012 are as follows:

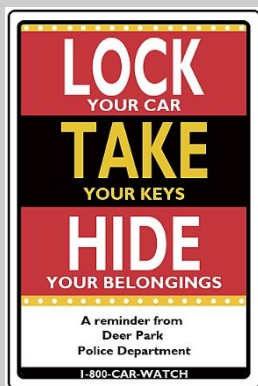
**Business Watch Program-**The Business Watch program is designed to combine the knowledge of the citizens of Deer Park and the Police Department by using various means of communication (meetings, emails, telephone calls etc) in order to form a coordinated and collaborative effort to minimize crime at businesses while increasing communication between them. At the end of 2012, the program had 209 members who receive a monthly newsletter via email apprising them of crime trends and prevention methods.



**Neighborhood Watch Newsletter-** A monthly newsletter has been formulated and distributed each month to citizens in the City of Deer Park who participate in the Neighborhood Watch program and National Night Out. This newsletter is much like the newsletter for the Business Watch program but the topics are more directed to citizen safety and crime trends in our neighborhoods. This newsletter is sent to 583 residential emails monthly.



# COMMUNITY SERVICES



**Lock-Take-Hide Sign Program** –In hopes of reducing motor vehicle burglaries, signs were distributed to burglary of motor vehicle problem areas in the city that reminded drivers to lock their cars, take their keys, and hide their belongings. There are presently 80 Lock, Take, Hide signs distributed throughout Deer Park. Several more are scheduled to be distributed throughout the City in early 2013.

**Lock Box Program**—As the population ages, it is becoming more and more common for the elderly to fall or suffer from illnesses that render them incapable to open the door for emergency responders. To lessen damage and alleviate problems with securing the home, in 2011 the department developed a program to facilitate entry into the home. The program was designed to hide-a-key for elderly citizens who requested the service so emergency responders had access to their homes. By the end of 2012, 46 residents had requested and received a lock box. The program proved to be beneficial on at least two occasions in 2012, where the lock box was utilized to assist elderly citizens who were in need of medical attention.



**Public Service Announcements** – Three new public service announcements were choreographed, filmed and subsequently released for viewing. These announcements were beneficial in notifying our citizens of the various programs offered by the Police Department. Swimming Pool Safety, Handicap Placard Placement and Reporting Impaired Drivers were the PSA's for 2012. More videos will continue to be developed to address contemporary issues. Presently, there are six total with nine more to be filmed in 2013. These videos are aired on the local DPTV Channel 16 and can be viewed on the City of Deer Park website.

**The Mentor Program for Future Supervisors** -Over the past two years, six police officers and two civilian employees began the program and received advanced training in leadership, human resources, policy, ordinance writing as well as other topics. They received this additional training in order to help them understand how the police department operates, and to better equip them in the future should they become new supervisors. By providing them with this knowledge they will be better prepared to lead the department toward providing the utmost service to the citizens of Deer Park.

In addition to all of the above mentioned programs, two of the Community Service Division's officers were acknowledged for their achievements during the 2012 year. Officer Bryan Miller was awarded the City of Deer Park Officer of the Year award and Officer Scott Baumann was awarded the American Legion Officer of the Year award. Congratulations to all for a job well done.

# FIELD TRAINING OFFICERS

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Our daily goal is to serve the citizens of Deer Park to the best of our abilities and make sure everyone of us make it home to our families at the end of our shift.  
—Officer Clint Jackson

Why do I say it?  
Cause it happened!!!  
Officer Josh Patton

My job as an FTO, is to teach new officers the skills and tactics necessary to have a safe and rewarding career in law enforcement.  
—Officer Josh Reed

I enjoy watching my recent trainee's do well after finishing the FTO program. It lets me know they are able to apply the lessons they learned from their training.  
—Officer Scott Baumann

Becoming a part of the FTO program has been very rewarding. At the same time, it's been a learning experience for me. It has taught me that time management and prioritization is key, not only to the trainee, but to the trainer. Don't let yourself fall behind. Lesson #1.  
-Officer Forrest Becker

## Is It Recording or Not??

COBAN, the in car audio/video recording system, can be utilized as a great training tool, except when it records the FTO and PPO sitting inside the car, both obviously dumbfounded, trying to figure out if camera #2 is actively recording or not; then, just when you think you're safe, your called out on it by your supervisor, "can you explain, what?...what exactly was going on here?"  
Officers Jason LaPoint & J.B. White  
-- can this be anonymous...

One night, Nitchman was driving around the city and observed a blue tarp over some pipes, located inside the (heavily fenced with barb wire) water tower. Nitchman believed there were homeless people camping out underneath the tarps and that we should check them out. I had to explain to Nitchman, that the tarps were put over the pipes to keep them warm during the cold winter days and that no one was living underneath them. — Officer Bryan Miller

An Officer I trained was recently named Officer of the Year, I take all the credit for that.  
-Officer Joe Blanchat

A good Officer begins with a good Field Training Officer and the Deer Park Police Department has the best field training program.  
— Officer Anthony Kuchinski

The Field Training Program saw three new officers come through the program this year. Officers J.B. White, came through at the end of the year and finished in November and was assigned to day shift. Officers A. Cavazos and J. Nitchman came through in the later part of the year and are currently completing their FTO training and should be finished by the end of March 2013. At the beginning of this year there were five active Field training Officers: Officer S. Jackson, C. Jackson, S. Baumann, F. Becker and J. Blanchat. During this year we added five new Field Training officers to the program for a total of ten. The new officers are: Officer J. LaPoint, A. Kuchinski, J. Reed, J. Patton and B. Miller.



# PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICERS<sup>22</sup>



Chief Grigg and Jonathan White

I chose to apply at the Deer Park Police Department because after working several years in College Station as a police officer, it was time to move closer to home. I grew up in Clear Lake and went to Clear Brook High School, where I met my wife. I have enjoyed every step of the process, from the day I applied, to where I am now, working patrol on my own again. Everyone has been very supportive and I have to really thank the FTO's for helping me with my transition.



Chief Grigg and Joel Nitchman

I was hired on in September of 2012 as a cadet for the Deer Park Police Department. I have a degree from Michigan State University where I was on scholarship to play football. Once my wife and I came down to Texas, I became a special education paraprofessional and then a restaurant manager at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen. Both careers were nice, but they did not bring me the job satisfaction and sense of team that I feel everyday working as a police officer at the Deer Park Police Department. During my PPO stage, I have been trained by Clint Jackson, Brian Miller, and Anthony Kuchinski. All of my trainers have been such great teachers and also VERY PATIENT which I appreciate due to the fact that I have had to make a U-Turn or two in trying to figure out where I am at times. However, I am getting better every day.



Chief Grigg and Arnold Cavazos

During the creation of the 2012 Annual Report, Arnold Cavazos left the Deer Park Police Department to seek employment elsewhere.

# CRIME PREVENTION

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Officer Tina Taylor

The Deer Park Police Department reinstituted the Crime Prevention Officer position in 2012. The Crime Prevention Officer position was made possible through funding from the Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) that was approved in 2011 by the citizens of Deer Park.

The Crime Prevention Officer serves the Deer Park Police Department and citizens of Deer Park by organizing and maintaining crime prevention programs, educating the public in the techniques of crime prevention, promoting citizen awareness and the use of crime prevention methods; assisting in the implementation and coordination of Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch, National Night Out, Beat Meetings, and other organized crime prevention efforts.

The Deer Park Police Department has a Vacation Safety School program that runs in the summer for the youth of our community. This program covers many safety concerns for children such as gun safety, home alone safety, bullying, fire safety, and much more. The Deer Park Police Department also offers many programs including Lock Box program, Are You OK, Shepherd program, Citizen's Police Academy, residential and business security surveys, Lock Take Hide program, Look Before You Lock, and many other programs.



Also available through the Deer Park Police Department, Crime Prevention Division, are two electronic newsletters. There is a Neighborhood Watch Newsletter and a Business Watch Newsletter that any citizen or business person may subscribe to via Officer Taylor.





# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS



Officer Jack Bounds, Officer Norman Pocs, Officer Doug Nettles, Officer Del Wilcoxson



The Deer Park Police Department along with the Deer Park Independent School District have come together to build an alliance in the community by placing an emphasis on the safe and healthy environment for our children to prosper during their learning endeavor. This alliance has brought about the School Resource Officer (SRO) program, which provides the highest quality of police service in order to improve the quality of life for the students and faculty of the schools of Deer Park. This program, which has increased to four officers, has helped strengthen and solidify an already outstanding relationship between the School District and the Police Department. These officers continue to develop relationships with the children

while working together with the School District to identify and resolve issues affecting public safety in our schools and community. The SRO is contacted for all on-campus responses and has the discretion afforded through the Deer Park Police Department Departmental Rules and Procedures as to what enforcement action is taken when a law is violated. We are happy to be a partner with the Deer Park Independent School District and hope to have a successful program for years to come. In 2012, the SRO's consisted of Jack Bounds, Doug Nettles, Norman Pocs and Del Wilcoxson. The SRO's made 13 arrests and wrote approximately 97 school related citations. Additionally, Officer Pocs wrote approximately 90 traffic citations.

# TRAFFIC UNIT



Ofc. C. Aurelius, Sgt J. White, Ofc. D. Bode

The Deer park Police Department-Traffic Unit consists of a Sergeant, two traffic officers, and 21 Crossing Guards and 5 Substitute Crossing Guards. Along with these employees, the Traffic Unit heavily relies on the Deer Park Police Department volunteers to help survey problem areas, calibrate/maintain radars. These volunteers also assist with parades, car seat events, and they even issue Handicap parking violation citations with the "Citizens on Parking Patrol" (COPPS) program.

Of course, the primary function of the Traffic Unit is to create the safest roadways possible within our city. This starts with enforcing traffic laws in hopes of gaining maximum traffic compliance. In turn this should reduce the number of traffic-related calls for service and reduce the number of motor vehicle crashes within the city. In 2012, the Traffic Unit acquired another radar trailer to deploy to problem locations. Also, another state of the art Laser radar was added to help with enforcement, which brings that total to 4 in our inventory. These radars are instrumental for officers to be able to work in dense traffic. They aid officers in being able to select a fast moving vehicle at greater distances with pinpoint accuracy. An integral part of upholding the Deer Park Police Department's mission statement related to diligence and "purposeful activity" comes from the Selective Traffic Enforcement or S.T.E.P. program. This program involves targeting specific problem locations with low compliance rates and/or high crash rates. The Deer Park Traffic Division continues its efforts to work proactively with the community on speeding issues by deploying radar trailers to problem areas. These radar trailers alert violators and remind motorists of a particular area's speed limit. Additionally, officers regularly sign out the citizen's radar so that citizens can get a hands on approach and assist with analyzing speeding problems on their neighborhood streets. Some "other duties as assigned" include traffic control for special events/

parades, working with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), and working closely "in-house" with fellow patrol officers to problem solve on traffic issues in their beats. Traffic officers attend community meetings and partner with other organizations to achieve the overall objective of making Deer Park a safer community.



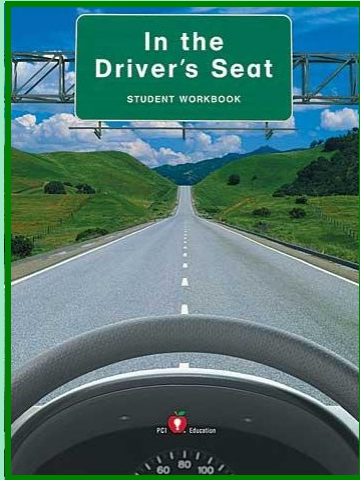
Margaret Robertson and Sgt. White



Sgt. John white, Don Brown, Margaret Robertson, Adell Boren

# TRAFFIC UNIT

The most notable of the proactive/ educational activities of the Traffic Unit comes from the involvement with the Texas Children Hospital /Safe Kids Greater Houston Coalition performing car seat installation inspections in Deer Park and the surrounding area. With an estimated 90% misuse in the population on the proper installation of car seats, no program could be more important to work towards keeping children safe.

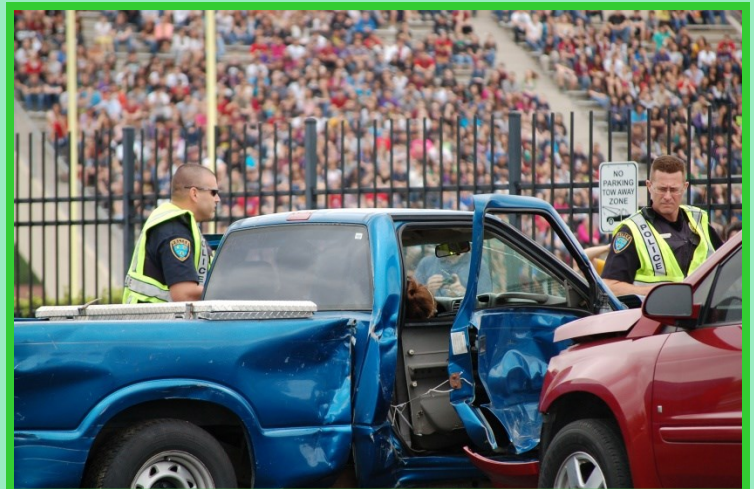


The Deer Park Police Department-Traffic Unit regularly works on numerous projects with other City of Deer Park departments, such as the Public Works/Traffic Engineering Department, and Code Enforcement. This helps create an information flow to get new traffic control devices installed, which usually starts with traffic flow/speed studies that are intended to reduce congestion and increase overall safety and awareness.

Another important partnership comes from working with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) to obtain grant funding for speed enforcement and Impaired Driving Mobilization (IDM) grants. These extra funds put additional officers on the streets to slow people down and create a deterrence for drunk driving. Deer Park continues its support of the TXDOT and Texas Traffic Institute's "Report Impaired Drivers" (RID) campaign to educate the public on the proper way and the importance of identifying and calling in on DWI suspects. RID is an initiative that TTI began in partnership with the Deer Park Police Department in 2010, and it is projected to eventually expand statewide. Deer Park has supported this program with Public Service Announcement videos that can be found on the City of Deer Park web site at [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov). (The main web page for this program is [www.reportimpaireddrivers.org](http://www.reportimpaireddrivers.org) ).

The Traffic Unit also works closely with the Deer Park Independent School District on the "Shattered Dreams" program, the "Buckle Up Texas" campaign, and the "Teens in the Driver's Seat" campaign. Along with these programs, the Traffic Unit is regularly called upon to solve general traffic flow problems adjacent to schools. *Finally*, a large part of the Traffic Division's goal to maintain safety in our community comes from the partnership with our local school districts to provide Crossing Guards to help our children get to and from school safely. (For more information on the Crossing Guards, there is a separate page dedicated to them and their efforts in this annual report).

*The Traffic Unit's philosophy can be summed up by saying, "We support the Deer Park Police Department's mission statement by problem solving through the tenets of Enforcement, Education, and Engineering"*  
~ Sergeant J.W. White- Traffic Sergeant.



# CROSSING GUARDS

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Many of our school children are able to get to school safely each day due to a partnership between the Deer Park Police Department, Deer Park Independent School District and LaPorte Independent School District. Of course, the most important aspect of this partnership is our brave citizens who break up their day to be Crossing Guards at the 21 locations interspersed throughout our City.



Becky Rundle, second from left and Joyce Hall, third from right, retire from DPPD.

Obviously their primary goal is to get the children across the streets every morning and afternoon. Crossing Guards also provide an extra set eyes and ears out in our community to keep the children safe. Furthermore, they add to the safety of the numerous parades and events in our community throughout the year.

This job may look easy to a motorist just passing by, but having to interrupt your day twice to go out into traffic, no matter what the weather, and be there to cross children is not without its challenges.

Without them, many students would be deprived of the option to walk to and from school. All Crossing Guards are equipped with handheld radios, whistles, stop signs, and reflective clothing. They receive monthly departmental safety and briefing trainings on topics such as shelter in place procedures, and traffic safety issues. They are also American Heart Association -CPR/ AED trained.

Every year the Deer Park American Legion Post 319 recognizes a Crossing Guard of the Year, and at the close of each school year, all Crossing Guards are invited to a City sponsored appreciation luncheon.

Congratulations go out to the long time Crossing Guard of the year- 2012, **Patsy Jean Parker!**

*"I know that personally, my son knows how to ride his bike because he was determined to be able to ride it to school. I doubt I would have allowed him to ride to school without a dedicated, patient, and alert Crossing Guard to help him through a major intersection every day."*

– Sergeant John White, Traffic/  
Crossing Guard Supervisor.



# HONOR GUARD

Throughout the year, the Deer Park Police Honor Guard represents the City of Deer Park by providing proper courtesies to the flag at ceremonies that involve dignitaries within our community. The primary purpose of the Deer Park Honor Guard is to provide proper funeral honors for fallen officers. Other duties include paying proper respect at funerals for current or former dignitaries or public servants whose families request it. The Honor Guard is composed of officers within the department who are interested in representing the Police Department at high profile functions. They are screened for their sincere desire to represent the department in high profile - distinguished events. Furthermore, they are evaluated on their willingness and ability to learn the drill and ceremony aspects of the position, and present a positive image to the public.

The Deer Park Honor Guard represents the City of Deer Park in numerous ceremonies throughout the year.



Presenting the colors at Relay for Life

- \* Presentation of the colors at the American Cancer Society-Relay for Life event at Deer Park High School-North Campus;
- \* Presenting the colors at the Deer Park State of the City Address and other civic events around the city;
- \* Assisting the Deer Park Independent School District with Veteran's Day Ceremonies;
- \* Hosting the Deer Park- Peace Officer Memorial Service. This event coincides with National Peace Officer Memorial Week in the month of May and is attended by police officers and dignitaries from around the area. It is open to the public, and it is meant to pay tribute to all fallen officers with the posting the colors/ the National Anthem, a Mayoral Proclamation, wreath presentation, and a 21 Gun Salute and taps.
- \* Attending funeral services for area Police Officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.
- \* Provide representation at the funerals of dignitaries who have served our community.

**Sergeant J. W. White**  
**Sergeant C.D. Brown**  
**Officer S.C. Baumann**  
**Officer C.K. Aurelius**  
**Officer J. Blanchat**

**Sergeant S. L. Hershey**  
**Officer T.A. Taylor**  
**Officer W.O. Chaffin**  
**Officer D. Bailey**  
**Officer M. Moore**

**Sergeant W.F. Hart**  
**Officer S.N. Guimbellot**  
**Officer N.C. Thatcher**  
**Officer D.M. Bode**

# PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL



Pasadena Police Chief Mike Thaler addresses the audience at the 2012 Deer Park Police Officers Memorial Ceremony.

Police Officers Memorial Day falls during the venerated National Police Week, as proclaimed by President John F. Kennedy in 1962. In Deer Park, as it is in many communities across the country, the week is dedicated to honoring those who serve and reminding those in service to be vigilant and safe, while honoring those officers who have fallen during the performance of their duties.

In 2012 the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund reported 120 law enforcement deaths. While 2012 saw a much sought after reduction in the number of officers lost from previous years, each death was still painfully felt by the law enforcement community, the communities they served and the country as a whole.

The Deer Park Police Department continued with the somber tradition of honoring those brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. On May 15, 2012, the department held the Police Officers Memorial Service at the Municipal Court and Theater Building.

The invocation and benediction were provided by Councilman Chris Richey and Deputy Fred Taylor of Precinct 8 performed *Amazing Grace* on the bagpipes. Other performances included the playing of *Taps* by Patsy Embil, the singing of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* by Susan Mele, and a rendition of the *Star Spangled Banner* by Julianne McBride. Pasadena Police Chief Michael Thaler spoke during the ceremony and Wayne Riddle, in his final year of office, provided the Mayoral Proclamation.

Other ceremonial customs included the Presentation of the Colors and the 21 Gun Salute, as carried out by the police department's Honor Guard, and the Wreath Ceremony which was completed by City Manager James J. Stokes and Police Chief Gregory L. Grigg.

The Police Officer Memorial serves as an annual opportunity for Deer Park citizens, employees and first responders to pay respects to those who serve, to memorialize those officers who have fallen in service to others and as a special reminder of the privileges, prosperity and peace we enjoy as Deer Park and American citizens through the efforts of our law enforcement officers.

# BREATH TEST PROGRAM

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Technical Supervisor  
Officer Tina Taylor

The Deer Park Police Department DWI Breath Test Program was initiated in 2000. The increase in the population of the city along with the increase in the number of DWI arrests led to the need for the Deer Park Police Department to have an Intoxilyzer instrument to be used to measure the alcohol concentration of a person who has consumed ethyl alcohol. Once a subject has been arrested for Driving While Intoxicated that person is given the opportunity to provide a breath specimen to be measured by the Intoxilyzer 5000 instrument to determine his or her ethyl alcohol concentration.

The program was initiated and is maintained by Officer T. A. Taylor the Technical Supervisor over the program. The program is certified through the Texas Department of Public Safety. The Scientific Director, Mack Cowan, sets high forensic standards for the program.

The instrument is used by the Breath Test Operators who use the Intoxilyzer 5000 EN to run evidential breath tests on subjects in custody for DWI.

The Breath Test Operators for 2012 were: M. S. Anderson, C. Aurelius, D. Bailey, F. Becker, J. Blanchat, D. Bode, C. Brown, J. Cooper, J. Hill, J. Meredith, J. Reed, M. A. Salas, and D. Wilcoxson.

The instrument is located inside the Deer Park Police Department jail and is secured in a locked cabinet. A monthly inspection is performed by the Technical Supervisor, along with an annual inspection by the Texas Department of Public Safety. The Technical Supervisor is recertified twice a year and is responsible for the recertification of the Breath Test Operators every year. In 2012, the instrument was used 152 times.

Senate Bill 74 of the 61st Legislature in 1969 provides that analysis of a person's breath to determine alcohol concentration must be performed according to methods approved by the Texas Department of Public Safety and by an individual possessing a valid certificate issued by the Department for this purpose. This bill also authorized the Department of Public Safety to approve satisfactory techniques or methods, to ascertain the qualifications and competence of individuals to conduct such analysis, and to issue certificates certifying such fact.

In order to carry out the provisions of this bill, the Texas Department of Public Safety promulgated the Texas Breath Alcohol Testing Regulations contained in **Texas Administrative Code Title 37 Chapter 19**. The Department has created the Office of the Scientific Director, DPS Crime Laboratory, to administer these regulations and qualifications. All analyses by state, county, and city law enforcement officials are performed in accordance with these regulations which require either the certification or approval of all aspects of forensic breath alcohol testing. These analyses are conducted in over 400 approved testing facilities by one of approximately 6000 certified breath test operators representing some 700 different law enforcement agencies.



# K9 PROGRAM



Officer E.J. Pereira and K-9 Ty

The Deer Park Police Department's K-9 Unit consists of Officer Eddie J. Pereira who is the K-9 handler and Ty, a black Labrador retriever who is a certified narcotics detection K-9. The K9 unit trains diligently at least one day out of the week. Officer Pereira and Ty logged approximately 260 hours of training time in 2012.

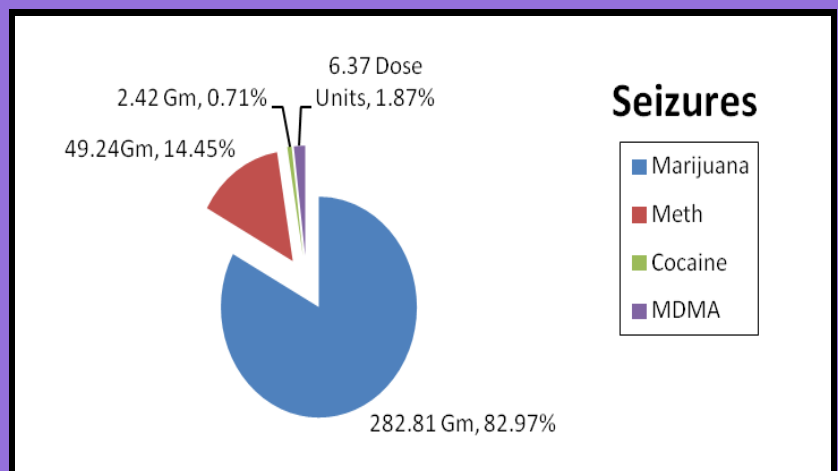
In April 2012, Ty placed 18<sup>th</sup> out of 103 K-9s at the National Narcotic Detection Dog Association (NNDDA) Competition. The NNDDA is an institute committed to the utilization and proficiency of scent detector K-9s for the benefit of law enforcement and private industry. The NNDDA provides training related to the laws of search and seizure and the utilization of scent detector dogs, as well as a means of certification for court purposes. In August 2012, Ty took 5<sup>th</sup> place out of 31 K-9s from surrounding police agencies at the Texas Narcotics Officer Association competition, which is a competition geared at testing K9 units ability to locate hidden narcotics. Ty has progressively shown improvement at these types of events serving the city well.

Officer Pereira and Ty have been instrumental in developing relationships with citizens and strengthening partnerships with the community. During 2012, Officer Pereira and Ty provided instruction and a demonstration for Citizen Police Academy class 25 and class 26. They also put on numerous presentations and exhibits for the elementary schools and during beat meetings. Additionally, the K-9 Unit conducted a demonstration for the children who attended Vacation Safety School that was hosted by the police department in June 2012.

In 2012, the K-9 unit logged over 100 vehicle searches, 54 drug related arrests and removed approximately \$8,600.00 worth of illegal drugs from the city streets. In addition to the seized drugs, Officer Pereira and Ty seized approximately \$900.00 in cash, bringing the street value of the K-9 unit's 2012 seizures to approximately \$9500.00.



Officer Pereira and Ty at Vacation Safety School



# SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

During the 2012 Calendar year, the Deer Park S.W.A.T. Team (Special Weapons And Tactics) was under the command of Sergeant W. F. Hart. The Team is made up of a group of eight highly trained and motivated officers from within the ranks of the Police Department. The Team is comprised of two major components, the Entry Team and the Marksman Team. Both components function together as one Team, under the direction of the S.W.A.T. Commander. Fortunately, during the 2012 year there were no calls that required the specialized training of the S.W.A.T. Team.



## Entry Team

The Entry Team is made up of six S.W.A.T. members who specialize in close quarter conflicts, including but not limited to; building searches, bus assaults, vehicle take downs and high risk warrant service. In addition to the primary functions of the Entry Team, they are also responsible for high



water rescue using the high water rescue boat. During the 2012 year, the Police Department purchased a new 14' aluminum flat bottom rescue boat. This boat will be integrated into the annual high water rescue training for the 2013 year. The team uses the high water rescue boat to train on the rescue of citizens who have fallen victim to rising or high water.

## Marksman Team

The Marksman Team is made up of two S.W.A.T. members who are trained in precision marksmanship. Some of the functions of a precision marksman are to provide covert intelligence to the S.W.A.T. Commander, provide long and mid range defensive support for the Entry Team and



# SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

to provide a long range resolution for hostage rescue operations, if necessary. In addition to their primary function, the members of the Marksman Team are also trained as Entry Team Members and can fill in when needed.

Each Team member was selected through a vigorous battery of testing that included a physical fitness assessment, oral interview and weapons proficiency. Once selected for the team, S.W.A.T. Team members are subjected to annual physical fitness testing to ensure that they are fit for duty. S.W.A.T. members are also tested on their ability to demonstrate weapons proficiency and decision making skills through vigorous firearm drills. During the 2012 year, there were no new members added to the team.

The S.W.A.T. Team logs over 100 hours of training annually that covers various high risk scenarios. This training includes:

- Hostage rescue training
- Barricaded subject resolution
- High risk warrant service
- Dignitary protection

In addition to the S.W.A.T Teams primary functions, the Team provided public education programs to various groups within the city. One of the programs held during the 2012 year was for the Citizen's Police Academy (CPA). The S.W.A.T team taught a four hour block of instruction to the members of CPA class number 25 and class number 26. The instruction to the CPA members consisted of a brief introduction to the team members, history of S.W.A.T. and the function and responsibility of the Deer Park S.W.A.T. team. During this training, the CPA members were given the opportunity to view some of the tactical gear commonly used during S.W.A.T. operations. At the end of the instruction, CPA members were given an opportunity to wear S.W.A.T. type gear and make a simulated entry into a room. The entry was designed to provide the CPA participants with an idea of what S.W.A.T. Team members face when making entries. In addition to the CPA demonstration, the S.W.A.T. Team assisted with Active Shooter education for GE Energy/ Dresser Direct, (a local business that currently participates in the Business Watch Program). Active Shooter training was developed to provide a better response to an individual that is actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. The training for the business was based on the active shooter awareness and response program that was developed by the Department of Homeland Security. During the training, the team facilitated a controlled active shooter event for the employees of the business. The Team also observed the employee's responses to the threat and provided the employees with suggestions on how they could tailor their actions to improve their safety.

Although the S.W.A.T. Team provides many functions throughout the community, the main goal of the Deer Park S.W.A.T. Team continues to be the preservation of life through the use of **Specialized Weapons And Tactics**.

# CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS

The Deer Park Police Department's Crisis Negotiation Team is utilized to resolve special threat situations such as suicide attempts, barricaded suspects and hostage incidents through the process of specialized negotiation techniques. The primary goal of the team is to bring these types of situations to a peaceful resolution, thus reducing loss of life and harm to citizens and officers.

The Team is comprised of five members. Sergeant Rouen is the Team Commander and serves with four team members, including Officer Johnson, Detective Sawtell, Officer Bounds, and Officer Thatcher as negotiators.

All members of the team attend extensive continuing Education and are required by the department to train once a month to maintain proficiency. Monthly training is usually in the form of a simulated incident and is routinely conducted in conjunction with the Department's SWAT team or with other area police negotiation teams. Most of the members attend an annual training conference that is presented by the Texas Association of Hostage Negotiators and the Federal Bureau of Investigations which focuses on recent issues relevant to negotiations. All of the team members are currently "certified" by the International Association of Hostage Negotiation and the Public Agency Training Council. The Team also has advisors available to them from the Houston Police Department, the FBI, and the mental health community should they be needed.



Hostage Negotiator Officer Jack Bounds



# ALARM COORDINATOR



Officer M. Howard

The Alarm Coordinator position was established in April 2007 at which time the administration and enforcement for this newly amended city alarm ordinance was transferred from the Utilities Department to the Police Department. With the transfer came the responsibility for issuance, invoicing and collection of alarm permits and renewal fees and invoicing for excessive false alarms fees.

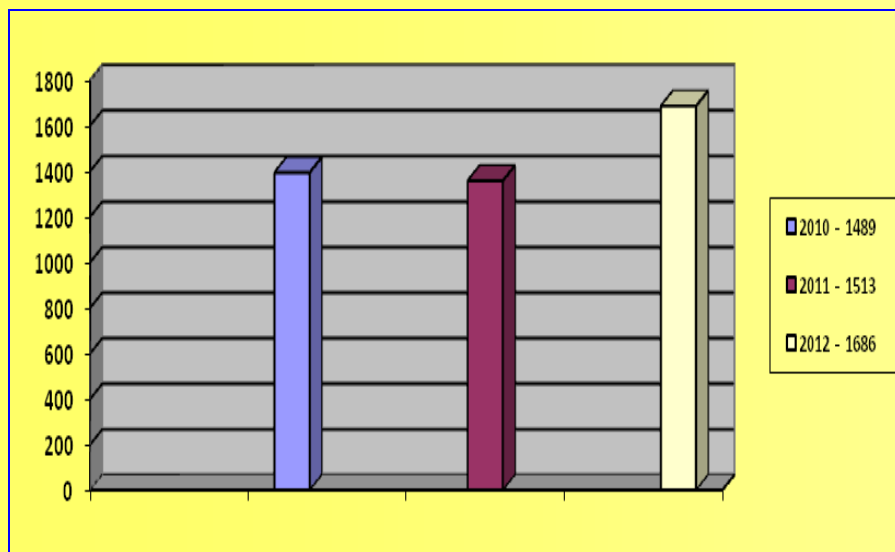
Daily duties include review of all alarm events, determination of billing status, and transfer of alarm event information from the dispatchers CAD system into the CryWolf alarm tracking software. Additional duties include reviewing alarm permit applications and generating permit number accounts, formal permits, and "shadow" permit account numbers for non-registered alarm locations pending receipt of their formal applications and required fees. The position is also

responsible for the invoicing and collection of excessive false alarm fees. The Alarm Coordinator also makes contact with the owners of locations with excessive false alarms to offer information in an attempt to reduce the number of false alarms. Excessive false alarms lead to costly fees to businesses and residents, and create safety issues for responding officers and the unnecessary and costly use of city assets. The Alarm Coordinator, in conjunction with the beat officers, attends both business and neighborhood watch meetings to assist concerned business owners and citizens in their crime fighting posture, along with teaching at the Citizen Police Academy classes. The Alarm Coordinator generates a monthly listing of top ten alarm locations with at least 3 alarm activations, whether chargeable or ignored, which is distributed to respective beat officers and supervisors for additional follow-up.

During 2012, there continued to be an increase in the number of alarm permit applications **(314)**, which allows that some increase in the numbers of alarm activations should be expected.

In 2012, there were **(402)** alarm events cancelled by alarm companies, businesses and residents who have followed the alarm verification procedure and assisted in the false alarm reduction efforts which has served to save city and permitted location's assets. These calls were non-billable and shown as ignored.

**Total alarm calls for 2012**



**Total alarms: (includes all types of alarm calls billable and non-billable/ignored)**

**2010—**

**1489 (1172 charged and 317 ignored)**

**2011—**

**1513 (1130 charged and 383 ignored)**

**2012—**

**1686 (1284 charged and 402 ignored)**

# PUBLIC SAFETY ATTENDANTS



Celeste Cooper



Zachary Escobar



Chris Matczak



Joseph Sheffield



Daryl Zavesky

Public Safety Attendants (PSA) are responsible for receiving, processing, and monitoring all incoming prisoners for the police department or other agencies as needed. This includes searching the prisoner, inventory of property, taking of photographs and fingerprints, and completion and filing of related reports and documents. Routine duties include preparing prisoner meals, obtaining medical attention, and maintaining proper care of prisoner property and records.

PSAs perform required inspections for the holding facility for safety, supplies, security and sanitation. They assist in the arraignment of detainees with the Municipal Judge and arrange transfers to other facilities. They processed 3,166 adults and 36 juvenile detainees in 2012. PSAs are cross-trained and are capable of taking non-emergency phone calls in the communications center when no detainees are in the holding facility. They are also responsible for fingerprinting members of the public for purposes of job application requirements. They make citizen contacts by providing personal service to individuals who have responded to the lobby of the police facility with a question or other non-emergency requests.

During 2012, there were six Public Safety Attendants: C. Cooper, J. Sheffield, C. Matczak, and O. Tatuaka (resigned to take another job). During this year PSA Z. Escobar and D. Zavesky were hired.

# INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

During the 2012 calendar year the Criminal Investigative Division was under the command of Acting Detective Lieutenant Ian Sawtell. Sawtell earned the Officer of the Month award for December 2012 based on his exemplary performance in leading the unit throughout the year. The Criminal Investigation Division is made up of three separate units that must all function as one, the Detective Unit, the Crime Scene Unit, and the Evidence/ Property Unit.

## Detective Unit



Det. J. Meredith, Det. S. Anderson, Crime Scene Ofc. J. Hill, Evidence Custodian E. Salazar, Det. I. Sawtell, Det. C. Banogan

The Detective Unit is made up of four Detectives, one of which specializes in sexual crimes against children. The Detective Unit's primary goal is to conduct follow-up investigations when a case is serious in nature or there is a reasonable expectation of it being solved. The Detective Unit works crimes ranging from small thefts to homicides. Detectives receive specialized training in all aspects of case investigation and work closely with the community, Patrol officers, other local and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as the Harris County District Attorney's Office. Each Detective is assigned a particular section of the city, and has primary responsibility for crimes that occur in that area, each area is called the Detective's "Beats". During the 2012 calendar year the Detective Unit was responsible for following up on over 700 cases.

## Volunteer Victim's Assistance Program

In 2012 the unit implemented a new program called the Volunteer Victims Assistance Program which was created with one main goal, to improve service to victims of crime. Community Volunteers assigned to the program were responsible for contacting crime victims and providing them information such as case status, assistance they may qualify for, and how to provide new information related to their cases. The program has been extremely successful and welcomed by the community.



Volunteer Ruth Cook and Det. I. Sawtell

# INVESTIGATIONS UNIT



Evidence Custodian E. Salazar

## Property and Evidence Unit

The Deer Park Police Department's Property Division consists of a Public Safety Attendant who is certified as Evidence Custodian and has extensive training in all aspects of properly managing a Police Property/Evidence Room. The Evidence Custodian's main areas of responsibility include, but are not limited to, the storage, security, destruction, proper packaging, and documentation of all incoming and outgoing evidence and property. The Evidence Custodian is also responsible for getting items to

the proper labs for analysis. The Evidence Custodian provides copies of case documents, videos, and photos as requested by the District Attorney's Office and also conducts research to determine the final disposition of cases. Evidence and property that was seized will be destroyed, sold at auction, converted to city use, or returned to its owner, depending upon the conclusion of the case and its disposition. The property room holds approximately 20,000 pieces, which are under the care, custody, and control of the Evidence Custodian at all times.

## Crime Scene Unit



Investigator/CSI Officer Jarrett Hill

The Deer Park Police Department's Crime Scene Unit consists of a licensed police officer who has specialized training and skills in aspects of processing all types of crime scenes. The Crime Scene Investigator's main area of responsibility is the processing of all major crime scenes. Each patrol shift also has an officer(s) specifically trained in crime scene processing who serves in a "back-up" role to the Crime Scene Investigator. Processing a crime scene may include taking photographs, sketching the crime scene, locating patent and latent evidence such as fingerprints, footwear impressions, hair, fibers and biological matter. In 2012 the unit collected evidence from various crime scenes which assisted in the prosecution of criminal cases ranging from misdemeanor to felony offenses. The Crime Scene Investigator also serves in the role of Evidence Custodian and shares in these responsibilities.

# CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

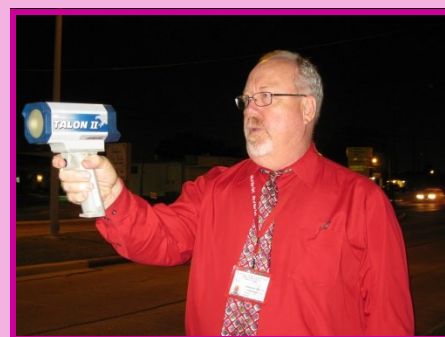
The Citizen's Police Academy (CPA), which is coordinated by the Community Liaison, is a condensed version of a basic police academy. Police officers, dispatchers, and other police employees who are experts in their respective areas of law enforcement instruct the classes. The participants are local citizens who are interested in learning about the inner workings of the police department.

The CPA is held one night a week for a period of 14 weeks (42 hours). Students learn about law enforcement related issues such as criminal law, traffic law, crime prevention techniques, dispatch dexterity, use of force, defensive tactics, firearm safety, crisis negotiations and SWAT team operations. Students also participate in reverse role scenarios such as family disturbances and traffic stops. Learning also takes place through hands on activities such as patrol ride-a-longs, lifting and taking fingerprints, shooting simunitions, Fatal Vision Goggles, and much more.

Additionally, CPA graduates may join an Alumni Association (DPCPAAA), which supports the police department with volunteer services. The Alumni assists in coordinating new CPA classes, and having promotional drives to obtain applications for new students for future academies. They also participate in the handicapped parking program, feed the officers on holidays, make warrant calls, and volunteer their time to assist various units of the police department. A major benefit of the CPA is the camaraderie formed between the officers and citizens of our city.



Citizen's Police Academy Class 25 (Spring 2012) graduates



Citizen's Police Academy Class 26 (Fall 2012) graduates



# CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



In 2012 the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association and Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) logged a total of 2,210.55 hours with the Police Department. Their volunteer time was spent making warrant calls, working traffic control for parades, assisting in evidence and property, helping with Peace Officers Memorial, Handicap Parking Enforcement, Public Safety Announcements, Volunteer Victim's Assistance Program, tracking and accounting for all departmental radar guns, Vacation Safety School, miscellaneous clerical duties around the department and much, much more. The Alumni also held several fundraisers such as CPR training, gun raffle, selling drinks and cookies at Concerts in the Park and Totally Texas.





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COMMUNITY

EVENTS



# AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS

## Officer of the Month for 2012

January	Officer Bryan R. Miller
February	Officer P. Anthony Kuchinski
March	Officer Scott C. Baumann
April	Officer Douglas E. Bailey
May	Officer Bryan R. Miller
June	Officer Tina A. Taylor
July	(no selection)
August	Officer Bryan R. Miller
September	Officer Bryan R. Miller
October	Officer Clinton W. Jackson
November	Officer Jason M. Huff
December	Detective Ian J. Sawtell

**OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR 2012**  
***OFFICER BRYAN R. MILLER***

## Police Department Employee of the Month Recipients 2012

<b>January-</b>	Sharon Moblo
<b>March-</b>	Sheila Plovanich
<b>September-</b>	Danny Rouen
<b>October-</b>	Sheila Plovanich
<b>November-</b>	Clayton Hall
<b>December-</b>	Joanna Edwards, Jarrett Grundman

# AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS

## *Rotary Officer of the Month for 2012*

February	Officer Veronika K. Minor
May	Detective Chad-Edward B. Banogon Officer Joseph D. Blanchat
November	Officer Kai L. Zheng

## *American Legion Officer of the Year*

**Officer Scott C. Baumann**

## *American Legion School Crossing Guard of the Year*

**Patsy J. Parker**

## *City Supervisor of the Month—December*

**Kellie Bass**

**EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR 2012 SUPPORT SERVICES**

***SHEILA J. PLOVANICH***

# SILENT HERO and BADGE OF COURAGE AWARD RECIPIENTS



TCO Hope Buck and her husband Kenneth Buck

Hope Buck has been dispatching for Deer Park for 15 years, but has almost 20 years of dispatching experience including her time at other agencies. She is known amongst her peers for her kind and respectful demeanor, and to responders on the other side of the mic for her calm and collected voice. Hope stepped up as acting supervisor following Cyndi Sauter's retirement in 2012 and helped keep the unit motivated during a period of change. She has always been, and remains, well liked amongst her coworkers and helps out frequently with overtime despite having a lot of other personal responsibilities.

When not at work, Hope loves to paint and spend time with her granddaughter. She has a healthy respect for the Fire Department through both her career and her son in law, an Atascocita volunteer fire fighter.



Officer Bill Chaffin and Sergeant F. Hart

Bill Chaffin currently serves as a patrol officer on the Evening Shift for the Deer Park Police Department since July, 2009. Since beginning his 2<sup>nd</sup> career Officer Chaffin has fully embraced the community policing initiative here in Deer Park and strives to put customer service fore front in his daily activities. Chaffin has received numerous letters from citizens complementing him on his patience and commitment to resolving their problems. Chaffin has a good work ethic and positive attitude which he displays each and every day. Chaffin is an asset to the shift, to the department and to the city.



The Deer Park Police Department would like to recognize and thank the following people for their<sup>50</sup> contributions to the 2012 Annual Report:

Rhonda Cole—Deer Park Police Department Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police

Kellie Bass—Deer Park Police Department Telecommunications Supervisor

Richard Tew—Freelance photographer and writer

Bobby Vasquez—Insidedp.com

Eddie Salazar—Deer Park Police Department Evidence and Property Custodian

Greg Holleman—City of Deer Park Public Works, Wastewater Plant Supervisor

Linda McHone—City of Deer Park, Director of IT Services

Special thanks goes to all of the police department employees for their contributions both in photos, text, and patience.



*"It's not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly. So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."*

*-Theodore Roosevelt (26th US President 1901-09)*

Dear Chief Grigg,

I am a local student. I was writing to you about a specific individual. Someone who has impacted my life greatly. This someone is a Deer Park Police Officer, Veronika Minor. She came into my life about a year ago. My mother was found unresponsive in her room. I had no idea what she had done but later I came to find out that she was trying to commit suicide. My first instinct was to call 911 and the ambulance showed up in about five minutes and two police officers came along also.

One was a man and the other was a woman. I was so scared because I didn't know why my mom was trying to take herself from this world. I didn't know how she got to that state of mind. They took her to local hospital and a couple of days later she returned home. Only a week and a half later she tried to pull the same stunt but this time she locked herself in the bathroom. We called the police and the officer that showed up, who's name I now know was Veronika. Not me nor my grandmother could get her out of the bathroom but, calling the police gave me hope that who ever came could get her out safely. Veronika went to the door and told her who she was and that everything was going to be ok. My mother then let her and a medic into the bathroom. She had never even met her but trusted Veronika by the way she spoke to her. If it wasn't for her theres a big chance my mom could be dead. I forgot to mention that my mother barley remembers any of this happening but the one thing she remembered was a women police officer and the way she described her is that Veronika was her guardian angel.

Usually after something like this cops do their report and move on but not this case. My mother called the police department and asked to send the officer that came to the 911 call. She wanted to thank Veronika for saving her life. From then on she has always been there for my family and I. Veronika and I instantly became close. Earlier I said I didn't know why my mother was trying to escape and I wanted us to be close again. Veronika has made it to where I really understand what my mom was going through and she made our relationship a lot stronger than it was. She is someone I turn to when i feel like I wanna give up. She has opened my eyes to the world and how things and people are going to be. She has made it to where I am driven and focused more on my education. Not only has she done this for me but she has done this for three of my other friends. She changed all of us for the better. About 8 months ago none of us really cared about anything but partying. We were gone all the time but she made us realize that, that will get us no where. She has encouraged us that we all have the ability to be anything we want as long as we set our minds to it. I have two little sisters and she treats us like we are hers. She's always telling me of interesting places to take them. Places where you can learn new things and have a good experiences. For example the museum called the Menil in Downtown Houston. Veronika has also gotten very close with my grandmother. She has been the light at the end of the tunnel for all of us. Anytime I need her she is really only a phone call away. I cannot stress to you how much she has impacted mine, my family, and my friends lives.

Growing up I have never had the easiest life and I always wondered why me? When will things change? I would just wanna run away from it all. Veronika said one thing to me that erased all of those questions and negative thoughts. She said, "Everyone is dealt a set of cards. Sometimes its a good hand and sometimes its trash but, it is your job to deal with them and make the best of them. Draw when you can, sort them out, and always keep faith that something good is going to come out of them." The biggest reason I wrote this paper is because there are not a lot of police officers that have as big of a heart as she does. I know this because my grandfather was a Pasadena police officer and was one of the best out there. I don't just say that because I am his grand daughter I say this because of all the people that have told me stories about him and how great of a man he was. Veronika Minor is that rare cop you come across. Someone who loves their job and does it good but, also goes above and beyond for others. You are very lucky to have her working for you!

Sincerely.